30 Main St. PO Box 2188 Rapid City, SD 57709 605-341-2844 Fax: 605-718-2332 www.cornerstonemission.org October 2022



Many years ago, Charlotte Elliot was a spirited young woman who contracted a devastating illness at 30 years of age. This illness left her an invalid and she fell into depression and turned away from composing and performing music. A well-known evangelist visited her and convinced her to put her life and illness into the hands of God. She did so and found an inner peace and strength that allowed her to pen the fabulous hymn, "Just As I Am."

People come to the Mission just as they are: hungry, tired, sick, depressed, sometimes dirty, addicted, and always homeless. They often come in resigned to their fate, angry at the world - yet longing for friendship. Cornerstone Rescue Mission accepts them just as they are! They are often surprised when we get them clothing from our Thrift Store, when staff are willing to sit and pray with them and help them rest and heal, when we provide them a healthy meal three times a day at no cost, and always happy to have a nice blanket and pillow to rest on. Thankfully God accepts us just the way we are too and allows us to minister to our families, church members, friends and community members. God put us here specifically to love and serve others and we are honored to do so alongside of all of you.

So many people rally around the Mission and the homeless and don't realize the wonderful impact they make. Thank you for caring for the homeless and serving them in your own unique way!

> CHARITY NAVIGATOR RECOGNIZES THE CONNERSTONE RESCUE MISSION $\bigstar \bigstar \bigstar \bigstar$

Peace, Lysa



Mark Gross is an Army Veteran who was homeless for seven months. He was sleeping in his van and was just barely making ends meet. He had not reached out to any veteran service providers or community support services. When we heard about Mark's situation, we met with him the next day. As he shared his story, we realized that he was completely lacking in hope. We reassured him that things would get better and that there were many people who would be glad to assist him get back on his feet. Mark agreed to fill out the paperwork and give SSVF (Supportive Services for Veteran Families) a chance. He left the meeting with his SSVF case manager with something he had not felt in a long time - Hope.

The next day Mark was informed that he was enrolled into the SSVF program and was scheduled to look at an available apartment. The following day the client called with the good news that he had been hired to work on boats at a marina, working full-time, and making \$25 an hour. He had not had any income for several months previously and was so excited that so many people would be willing to give him a chance.

After looking at an apartment with a landlord that Cornerstone had worked with previously, Mark decided that the apartment just felt too big for him after spending so much time in his van. He stated that his new boss gave him a cot in the corner of the shop by the bathroom and he had been staying there and he was loving it. Mark also shared that he decided to visit his brother who he had not talked to in months and did not have a good relationship with. He reported that the visit went very well and that his brother even offered to let him stay with him and his family. Mark was shocked to receive such a generous offer.

As his case manager searched for another housing opportunity, Mark informed us that he had received word from his son, wanting him to come to Colorado and live and work with him. Mark had not spoken to his son in several months and was almost speechless as he told us about this opportunity to go to Colorado. His son even bought him a plane ticket to Denver. When asked if we could share his story, Mark enthusiastically agreed. The message he wanted to share was one of HOPE.



A note from Lysa.....

"One of the many programs located at our men's mission is our Community Transitions Program, also known as CTP. Men in the CTP program are paroled directly from a penitentiary to our program to ready themselves to return to the community or to return to their families. After their intake, we work with them to find employment.



Once they find employment and have turned in their first paycheck (which is deposited into their own individual account), they are allowed leisure hours. We assist them in finding employment, learning to budget, learning basic housekeeping skills, and then assistance with finding them an apartment. All of the budgeting skills and housekeeping skills help them become a good tenant when they move to their own home. They also are referred out for treatment and mental health issues if needed. We have worked with inmates for the last 40 years, and now have a specific program just for them. They are a great group of guys who are trying to better their lives and move on from past mistakes. One of our core focuses at the Mission is to give second chances, and this group is grateful for the opportunity to receive just that."





Our Friends at MG Oil/Corner Pantry did it again! They sponsored the 13th annual Homeless But Not Hopeless golf tournament and raised \$44,000+ to help Cornerstone provide desperately needed services. This was a substantial increase over what they raised last year. We thank our Friends at MG Oil/Corner Pantry, the sponsors, the golfers, and Red Rocks golf course for their hard work and generosity!

Dave Kulish (MG Oil General Manager), Tanner Pruess and Tammy Young (MG Oil staff that work hard to pull this event together), Lysa Allison (Cornerstone Executive Director), and Deb Berg (Cornerstone Volunteer Coordinator).

2022 CORNERSTONE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Needs List:

MEN'S MISSION - 30 Main St.

KITCHEN: Canned fruits and vegetables, elbow mac., milk, coffee, oatmeal, pancake mix, cream of mushroom or chicken soup, cereal, egg noodles.

<u>MISSION:</u> Foot powder, towels, twin-sized blankets, twin-sized sheets, reading glasses, bottled water for sack lunches, personal hygiene items for men & women, backpacks. IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH, BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE JOHN 3:15 KJV

THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH

Meeded:

Groups to provide meals at the Men's Mission!

Call Deb for more information. 605-718-8712

WOMEN & CHILDREN'S HOME - 301 Fox Run Drive

Coffee, eggs, milk, cereal, sandwich bread, butter, sugar, laundry soap, dish soap, kleenex, clorox wipes, personal hygiene items.

CORNERSTONE THRIFT STORE - **401 - 11th Street**

Beds, furniture, small appliances, kitchen items, home décor.

<u>VETERANS</u> - *30 Main St.* Shoes, boots, sugar, creamer, antiperspirant, lotion, backpacks, coffee.

APARTMENTS - 1220 East Blvd.

Dish soap, household cleaners, toilet paper, laundry soap.

ADOPT A FAMILY

Gas cards, oil changes, laundry soap, dish soap, toilet paper, household items.